

King of Life: Matthew 27:54-28:15

Read Matthew 27:54-28:15.

Matthew records a number of interesting details:

- Roman **soldiers** and Jewish **women** were eyewitnesses of Jesus' death.
- The women saw Jesus' dead body placed in a secure stone tomb.
- Opponents secured the tomb the next day (Jesus' body was still there).
- The stone was rolled away while the guards were there.
- The guards and women saw an angel and an empty tomb.
- The women saw, touched, and spoke with Jesus.
- The guards incriminated themselves, admitting to the empty tomb.

Additionally, when put together, these details form some compelling evidence:

- The prominence of women means Mattthew was being as honest as he could.
- The witness of the soldiers means the body was removed supernaturally.
- The witness of the women means they firmly believed Jesus was alive.

Read 1 Corinthians 15:3-14. What evidence does Paul give for the resurrection?

Given this evidence, how confident are you in the resurrection of Jesus?

Which bits of evidence are most compelling to you?

Paul claims that the resurrection is the make-or-break belief of Christianity. What do you think of that?

Many people have many reasons for **not** being a Christian. What are some of the reasons you have heard?

How does the story of the resurrection answer those reasons?

Take It Home

The Resurrection of Jesus forms the foundation of our faith. But that means everything about Christianity is based on the truth that death is not the end, specifically, that sacrifice is not the end. How are today's Christians doing at living out that principle?

What difference would it make in our world if we really did?



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